

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling access to records stored in a database, said method comprising:

identifying a password that is associated with one or more users of said database;

defining a calculation expression for said identified password, wherein said calculation expression is a variable expression defined based on at least one field of data used in a plurality of records stored in said database and can be evaluated at least partly based on said at least one field of data used in said plurality of records, wherein said at least one field of data is a variable which may have different values for each of said plurality of records, thereby allowing access to various fields of data stored in said plurality of records to be selectively controlled, and wherein said calculation expression defines access privileges of said one or more users with respect to at least one operation that may be requested to be performed by said one or more users on said plurality of records of said database;

receiving a request to perform said at least one operation on said plurality of records of said database, said request being identified as a request made by said one or more users associated with said password;

evaluating said calculation expression for said each of said plurality of records, based on said at least one field of data, when said request has been received, wherein said evaluating comprises determining at least one value for said at least one field of data and using said at least one value as input to said calculation expression, said evaluation returning only one of two possible values for each of said plurality of records, one of said possible values indicating that said at least one operation should be granted

and another one of said possible values indicating that said at least one operation should be denied;

granting said at least one operation to be performed when said evaluation returns one said possible value to indicate that said at least one operation should be granted;
and

denying said at least one operation to be performed when said evaluation returns one said another possible value to indicate that said at least one operation should be denied.

12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 11, wherein said at least one operation can be a browse, an edit, or a delete operation.

13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 11, wherein said calculation expression is not explicitly defined for said at least one operation but said calculation expression is one that has been defined for another operation which has been considered as a related operation to said at least one operation.

14. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 11,

wherein said calculation expression can be evaluated at least partly based on at least one state variable of said database, wherein said state variable can indicate the condition of an element of said database at a particular time.

15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein said method further comprises:

granting temporary or limited access to said at least one record to allow said evaluating of said calculation expression.

16-37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium including computer program code for controlling access to records stored in a database, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for identifying a password that is associated with one or more users of said database;

computer program code for defining a calculation expression for said identified password, wherein said calculation expression is a variable expression defined based on at least one field of data used in a plurality of records stored in said database and can be evaluated at least partly based on said at least one field of data used in said plurality of records, wherein said at least one field of data is a variable which may have different values for each of said plurality of records, thereby allowing selectively controlling access to various fields of data stored in said plurality of records, and wherein said calculation expression defines access privileges of said one or more users with respect to at least one operation that may be requested to be performed by said one or more users on said plurality of records of said database;

computer program code for receiving a request to perform said at least one operation on said plurality of records of said database, said request being identified as a request made by said one or more users associated with said password;

computer program code for evaluating said calculation expression for each of said plurality of records, based on at least one field of data, when said request has been received, wherein said evaluating comprises determining at least one value for said at least one field of data and using said at least one value as input to said calculation expression, said evaluation returning only one of two possible values for each of said plurality of records, one of said possible values indicating that said at least one operation should be granted and another one of said possible values indicating that said at least one operation should be denied;

computer program code for granting said at least one operation to be performed when said evaluation returns one said possible value to indicate that said at least one operation should be granted; and

computer program code for denying said at least one operation to be performed when said evaluation returns one said another possible value to indicate that said at least one operation should be denied.

39. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 38, wherein said at least one operation can be a browse, an edit, or a delete operation.

40. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 38, wherein said calculation expression is not explicitly defined for said at least one

operation but said calculation expression is one that has been defined for another operation which has been considered as a related operation to said at least one operation.

41. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 38, wherein said calculation expression can be evaluated at least partly based on at least one state variable of said database.

42. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 38, further comprising:

computer program code for granting temporary or limited access to said at least one record to allow said evaluating of said calculation expression.

43. (Currently Amended) A database system comprising;

a database including a plurality of records stored therein;

a database program that can access said database and can be used as an interface to said database, wherein said database program includes a Graphical User Interface which can be used to: define a calculation expression for controlling access to said plurality records in said database, wherein said calculation expression is a variable expression defined based on at least one field of data used in a plurality of records stored in said database and can be evaluated at least partly based on said at least one field, wherein said at least one field of data is a variable which may have different values for each of said plurality of records, thereby allowing access to said plurality of records to be selectively determined based on said calculation expression; and

wherein said database program is further capable of:

receiving a request to perform at least one operation on said plurality of records in said database;

evaluating said calculation expression for each of said plurality of records, wherein said evaluating comprises determining at least one value for said at least one field of data and using said at least one value as input to said calculation expression, wherein said evaluation returns only one of two possible values for each of said plurality of records, one of said possible values indicating that said at least one operation should

be granted and another one of said possible values indicating that said at least one operation should be denied;

granting said at least one operation to be performed when said evaluation returns one said possible value to indicate that said at least one operation should be granted; and

denying said at least one operation to be performed when said evaluation returns one said another possible value to indicate that said at least one operation should be denied.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) A database as recited in claim 43, wherein said at least one operation can be a browse, an edit, or a delete operation.

46. (Previously Presented) A database as recited in claim 43, wherein said calculation expression is not explicitly defined for said at least one operation but said calculation expression is one that has been defined for another operation which has been considered as a related operation to said at least one operation.

47. (Previously Presented) A database as recited in claim 43, wherein said calculation expression can be evaluated at least partly based on at least one state variable of said database.

48-50 (Canceled)